



# Homeland Security

*Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655*

September 12, 2019

SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: foia@americanoversight.org

Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight  
1030 15th Street, NW  
Suite B255  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: 2018-HQFO-00449

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter is the final response to your January 4, 2018 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request addressed to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). You requested copies of all records reflecting communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, telephone call logs, calendar invitations/entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, draft legislation, talking points, or other materials) regarding the dissolution of the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity (PACEI), including communications regarding issues relating to election integrity, the security of federal, state, or local elections, the registration or participation of non-U.S. citizens in federal, state, or local elections, voter fraud, or DHS or ICE's participation in efforts similar or related to the review undertaken by the PACEI, between Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen or Chief of Staff Chad Wolf and any of the following: a. any employee of the White House, including Chief of Staff John Kelly, Andrew Kossack, anyone from the Office of the Vice President, anyone from the White House Counsel's Office, or anyone else whose email address ends in "who.eop.gov"; or b. any member or staff member of the Commission, including: i. Kris Kobach, Secretary of State for Kansas; ii. Connie Lawson, Secretary of State of Indiana; iii. Bill Gardner, Secretary of State of New Hampshire; iv. Matthew Dunlap, Secretary of State of Maine; v. Ken Blackwell, former Secretary of State of Ohio; vi. Christy McCormick, Commissioner, Election Assistance Commission; vii. Mark Rhodes, Clerk of Wood County, West Virginia; viii. Hans von Spakovsky, Senior Legal Fellow and Manager of Election Law Reform Initiative, Edwin Meese Center for Legal & Judicial Studies, Heritage Foundation; ix. J. Christian Adams, President and General Counsel, Public Interest Legal Foundation; and x. Alan King, Probate Judge, Jefferson County, Alabama; or c. any employee of the Department of Justice, including any person whose email address ends in "@usdoj.gov"; or d. any member of Congress, including congressional staff (Date Range for Record Search: From 12/5/2017 To 1/4/2018). This office received your request on January 4, 2018.

Information responsive to your request can be accessed online at <https://www.dhs.gov/publication/presidential-advisory-commission-election-integrity> accessed on September 12, 2019. Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(1) and (a)(2), DHS need not make available under FOIA records that are publicly available.

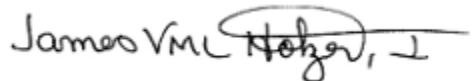
If you deem this to be an adverse determination, you may exercise your appeal rights. Should you wish to do so, you must send your appeal and a copy of this letter, within 90 days of the date of this letter, to: Privacy Office, Attn: FOIA Appeals, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 245 Murray Lane, SW, Mail Stop 0655, Washington, D.C. 20528-0655, following the procedures outlined in the DHS FOIA regulations at 6 C.F.R. Part 5 § 5.8. Your envelope and letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." Copies of the FOIA and DHS FOIA regulations are available at [www.dhs.gov/foia](http://www.dhs.gov/foia).

Provisions of FOIA allow DHS to charge for processing fees, up to \$25, unless you seek a waiver of fees. In this instance, because the cost is below the \$25 minimum, there is no charge.

If you need any further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact the analyst below who processed your request and refer to **2018-HQFO-00449**. You may send an e-mail to [foia@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:foia@hq.dhs.gov), call 202-343-1743 or toll free 1-866-431-0486, or you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison in the same manner.

Additionally, you have a right to seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) which mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you are requesting access to your own records (which is considered a Privacy Act request), you should know that OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. You may contact OGIS as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James V.M. Holzer, Jr." The signature is somewhat stylized and cursive.

James Holzer  
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer